

**HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
August 15, 2005 7:00 PM**

PRESENT: James Workman, Chairman, Cliff Pratt, Vice Chairman
Rick Griffin, Ben Moore, Virginia Bridle-Russell
James S. Barrington, Town Manager
Karen Anderson, Administrative Assistant

I. SALUTE TO THE FLAG – Captain Jamie Sullivan led the audience in the flag salute.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Moore announced that there will be a book signing at Tuck Museum on Sunday August 21, featuring Elizabeth Aykroyd and Betty Moore, authors of the newly published book "Postcards History Series: Hampton and Hampton Beach". Using over 200 postcards the book shows how Hampton went from a farming and fishing community to a residential community and tourist destination.

The Hampton Community Band will be performing on the grounds of the Tuck Museum from 7-9 PM on Monday, August 22nd. The band is made up of musicians of all ages from the seacoast area. They play a variety of music that appeals to everyone. The museum will be open before the concert begins

The History of Dolls, by Patricia Aveni will be presented at the Tuck Museum on August 23rd at 6:30 PM sponsored by the Historical Society.

The Hampton Historical Society will be hosting it's annual Pig Roast on September 17th. Mr. Pratt will once again be the chef for the Historical Society.

Mr. Pratt passed along the thanks of Mr. Bowley, the "street sweeper" to all the residents that are following the trash container ordinance. Mr. Bowley reported that the results have been positive and beach has been much cleaner this year.

The Seafood Festival will be held September 9th -11th and volunteers are still needed.

On August 21st the annual Firefighter Boot Drive for Muscular Dystrophy will be taking place on Ashworth Avenue.

The staff of the Lane Library was commended for the end of the season celebration that was recently held for the summer reading program, Camp Wannaread.

III. OLD BUSINESS

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Barrington thanked the staff for taking care of business while he was on his recent vacation.

Hurd Farm Celebration

The Hurd Farm Celebration is Wednesday, August 17th at 11:30 at the property.

Engine 2

Mr. Barrington reported that Engine 2, that was damaged a couple weeks ago, is now out of the body shop but is waiting for the roll up doors that are imported from England. It is estimated that the truck will be back in service in about three weeks.

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Mr. Barrington reported that the Zoning Board of Adjustment has a hearing scheduled on August 18th concerning a requested variance from parking requirements on the former Odd Fellows property.

Mr. Barrington reminded the Board that they had opposed such a variance on a prior application for that location. Mr. Barrington noted that the lack of parking spaces in the downtown area is an annual subject when snow begins to fall. Mr. Barrington recommended that the Board oppose this variance request.

Mr. Barrington requested a brief non-meeting with Attorney Gearreald for a couple pending legal matters at the conclusion of the regular meeting.

District Court

Mr. Moore suggested the Board of Selectmen discuss the letter from the Exeter Board of Selectmen in regard to a joint district court and if a vote is needed to support that recommendation. The Board noted that a formal vote had not been taken on this issue.

Mr. Moore MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen approve the letter to Chief Justice Broderick as written by the Town of Exeter and authorize Mr. Workman to sign the letter on behalf of Hampton.

Mr. Griffin SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Infrastructure Project

Mr. Moore spoke about the infrastructure project and how it appears to him that the contracts that have been signed exceed the warrant article amount by a small amount. Mr. Barrington said that there was a prior warrant article for work to be done on Ashworth Avenue that had some funds remaining which have been used as "seed money" towards the infrastructure project work on Ashworth Avenue. Mr. Barrington said that he is ready to sign a change order for lighting that will be paid for by the Precinct, which will also make it appear that the appropriated amount has been exceeded.

Mr. Griffin asked for an update on the Kings Highway aspect of the project. Mr. Barrington said that a meeting is scheduled for Tuesday morning with the engineers, contractor and representatives from both geo-technical companies that have inspected the area to determine why there has been a settling of some of the piping. Mr. Hagen had recommended that the work cease until the problem is understood and resolved. Mr. Griffin asked that the Board be informed of any additional costs that may be incurred as a result of this matter.

Legal Matters

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen meet in a non-meeting with Attorney Gearreald at the conclusion of the meeting.

Mr. Moore SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Odd Fellows Lot

Mr. Pratt said that he hates to see the vacant lot at the site of the former Odd Fellows building, but parking in the downtown is a concern. Mr. Griffin said that Mr. Nigrelli has proposed to build a real estate office on the first floor with residential condos above. Mr. Griffin asked if this is similar to the problem at the Bean property. Mr. Barrington said that in the case of the Bean property, the Zoning Board of Adjustment designated parking spaces on the town right-of-way to meet the parking requirement for the project, which they did not have the authority to do. On Lafayette Road, the parking spaces in front of that lot are on private property and the variance being requested is a reduction in the number of spaces required. Mr. Nigrelli has explained that with the mixed use, the spaces would be used during the day by the business use and at night by the residential use, designating one space per unit instead of two. The problem occurs in the winter, when there is inadequate off-street parking at night and the High Street lot cannot accommodate additional vehicles.

Mr. Griffin asked if there is any way the Board of Selectmen can recommend that the Zoning Board of Adjustment hold the line for all parking situations, rather than singling out one property owner. Mr. Barrington said that he would want to talk with Attorney Gearreald about some blanket recommendation since the Zoning Board of Adjustment is charged with reviewing each case individually. Mr. Pratt said that since this was done at this lot previously, he would want the Board to remain consistent.

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen oppose the variance request for parking at the Odd Fellows property.

Mr. Workman SECONDED

Mr. Workman pointed out that the parking in High Street parking lot becomes a problem each year and suggested that the Board of Selectmen should encourage the Zoning Board of Adjustment to understand that parking is at a premium and the history and issues of parking for this particular site are a concern. Mr. Griffin said that it is important that parking be an important consideration given the onslaught of condo conversions that are being proposed. Mr. Griffin said that he feels there will be a lot of problems in the future.

**VOTE: 4 FOR
1 ABSTAIN (Bridle)**

Park Avenue

Mr. Pratt asked about the status of Park Avenue and said that it appears that the school is realigning the intersection without coming to the Board for permission. Mr. Barrington said that he and Mr. Hangen met with representatives from Winnacunnet about their proposed entrance onto Winnacunnet Road and based on input from the Police and Fire Departments they were told at that time that they would have to "T" up the intersection at Park Avenue in order to make that intersection safe. The plan is available for the Selectmen's review. Mr. Barrington told the Board that Doug Mellin sent a letter to the school saying that their proposal works but recommended that they contact the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board to get their approval. Mr. Barrington said that the basic design that they are using is an appropriate design, but the Board of Selectmen should give that approval. Mrs. Bridle asked if the Planning Board approved it. Mr. Workman said that the school board came to the Planning Board with some preliminary plans but they were not required to go through the site plan process. Mr. Barrington said that the access onto Winnacunnet Road was handled appropriately as a driveway permit with Mr. Hangen and one of the requirements was the realignment of the Park Avenue intersection. It appears that there may have been a misunderstanding on their part that the driveway permit authorized the intersection work at the same time. Mrs. Bridle asked who was responsible for letting that slip through the cracks. Mr. Barrington said that this is an example of finding something after it has been done.

Mr. Barrington said that the Board of Selectmen has the authority to tell them to reopen it and leave it as it was, but that would be a mistake. The School Board made an assumption that the proper steps had been taken, and clearly that was not the case. Mr. Griffin asked if it is going to have to go to a Town Meeting vote. Mr. Barrington said that he does not believe it does; a preliminary opinion from Attorney Gearreald is that it does not, since this is simply a realignment of a street.

Water Rate Case

Mr. Barrington asked for the Board's concurrence for the Town to file as an intervener in Aquarion Water Company's rate increase case in order to protect the town's interest.

Mr. Griffin MOTIONED that the Town of Hampton file as an intervener in the Aquarion Water Company's rate increase.

Mr. Moore SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Reappointment of Tom Gillick to NHEP Management Committee

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED to reappoint Mr. Thomas J. Gillick, Jr. to the New Hampshire Estuaries Program for a three year term.

Mrs. Bridle SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Appointment of Ken Lobdell, Insurance Review Committee

Mr. Moore told the Board that Mr. Lobdell has volunteered to fill the third seat on this committee. He works for Lucent and would like to become more involved in town affairs.

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that Ken Lobdell be appointed to the Insurance Review Committee for a three year term.

Mr. Moore SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Acceptance of Flag Donation

Mr. & Mrs. Kane of Pearl Street have donated an indoor flag to the Town Office in honor of Mrs. Kanes's father, Captain J. Frank Murphy on the occasion of his induction into the Ranger Hall of Fame.

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen accept with appreciation the flag in honor of Captain Murphy from MR. & Mrs. Kane.

Mr. Moore SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Budget Work Session

Mr. Barrington told the Board that he asked the department heads to be present at this meeting, and they are available to answer questions from the Board. The departmental budgets are due to the Town Manager at the end of this week. Mr. Barrington told the Board that he has requested a flat budget from the departments and challenged them to be creative with the way they do business and look at some of the functions that have traditionally been done to see if they should be continued. One of the big issues is the future of the special revenue funds. New legislation and Judge McHugh's court ruling may have some impact on how these are handled. Mr. Barrington said that it may be worthwhile to put together some alternatives for the voters. He also said that the Board of Selectmen should consider pricing out some of the services that the town has provided, and ask the voters if they are something they are willing to fund them through individual warrant articles. Mr. Barrington said that any direction he can get from the Board of Selectmen will be appreciated as we are putting things together. Based on the traditional schedule, he will be spending a couple weeks on his review and the proposals will be to the Board of Selectmen late September and to the Budget Committee around Halloween.

Mr. Moore said that he would like to discuss the special revenue funds as well as the school resource officers. He noted that information has been received from the Hampton School District about funding \$40,000 for the Junior High SRO, but no information has been received from the Winnacunnet School Board. As of now, it does not appear there will be an SRO at the high school when it opens.

Chief Wrenn and Captain Sullivan were present. Chief Wrenn said that the Hampton School Board has offered to fund \$40,000 for the resource officer at the Junior High which should fund a portion of the salary. Captain Sullivan said that he met with Principal Zito today and understands that \$50,000 has been isolated for the Winnacunnet SRO. Mr. Moore suggested that a public hearing be held on August 29th to accept those grants.

Mr. Moore MOTIONED that the Board of Selectmen hold a public hearing on August 29th to accept a grant from the Hampton School District of \$40,000 for the Junior High SRO and \$50,000 from the Winnacunnet School District to fund the High School SRO.

Mrs. Bridle SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Pratt asked if \$40,000 included time that the officer has to go to dances and other activities at the schools. Chief Wrenn said that is one of the issues that has been discussed from time to time. He said that both schools have paid for some of the overtime, but it would be his recommendation that any overtime whatsoever, other than investigations, at HAJH or Winnacunnet be billed to the appropriate parties for reimbursement.

Mr. Pratt AMENDED the MOTION to include that all overtime for the School Resource Officers, for any special events, extra-curricular activities, sporting events, etc. are to be paid by the school district.

Mr. Moore SECONDED the AMENDMENT

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that it needs to be clearly communicated what the schools are paying for, what the town is billing them for and for how long. The Board agreed that there should be a written agreement. Captain Sullivan said that it is important to understand that all the parties are working together and this grant will not cover the total cost of the officers. Chief Wrenn said that there has been some confusion over this in the past and he agreed that there should be a memorandum of understanding signed.

Mr. Moore asked if the officer that was out on worker's compensation returned to work. Chief Wrenn said that the officer may not return until after October, due to the need to schedule appointments with specialists. Captain Sullivan said that the building remediation at the Junior High has been completed. Mr. Moore noted that any surplus in that account, due to not filling the position should be carried over into 2006.

Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that she is a proponent of special warrant articles because of the way it designates what the funds can be spent for, unlike amounts that are just designated in the budget. She is also a proponent of the special revenue funds for the same reason. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said she has seen too many items go by the wayside because a majority of the Board can vote not to do something. Mr. Pratt said that he is not clear about the judge's ruling. He said that he feels more clarification is needed, but he is not sure that the information is out there.

Mr. Barrington said that from the legal standpoint, that is a question to discuss with Attorney Gearreald. The policy implications of the ruling are that there is no annual vote needed to spend current year revenues, although that is contrary to DRA. Mr. Pratt said that we have set a precedent in Hampton and if a special warrant article is voted down and is challenged, the decision can be overturned again.

Mr. Moore said that it is necessary to discuss the funds individually because each has different circumstances. He noted that the SRF for special details was breaking even with expenses and revenues while it was in operation. When the appropriation was turned down in 2004, the revenue went to the SRF with the expenses coming out of the general fund which generated a surplus in that SRF account. Mr. Moore said that he understands the court ruling to mean that after the fund is created the legislative body does not have to be consulted for the in/out transactions to occur, just to withdraw any surplus balance. For the detail account, the balance could be designated for replacement cruisers as it is within the purpose of the fund. Mr. Moore said the concern is with counting on a warrant article for that purpose to pass in order to replace the cruisers. He would recommend that the detail fund remain, without the need for annual articles and then every few years when a surplus accumulates an article is put forward for a purpose in conjunction with the article.

Mr. Moore said that the EMS special revenue fund creates a significant surplus each year, which has been used for ambulance purchases. He said that it generates too much surplus to sit for more than one year and the question is how the ambulance fee is set or if the fund can be managed so that it can break even. He asked if everything that can be charged to that fund is being charged. Mr. Moore said that this fund, as well as the recreation fund are not the same as the detail fund because they are generating a substantial surplus that can sit there, which is not fair to the taxpayers. Mr. Moore said that the fire alarm fund is so small that it is irrelevant and should be part of the operating budget.

Mr. Moore noted that the cable fund is building up a nice balance and it would be nice to see what they can do with that.

Mr. Pratt said that dealing with the money that is left over appears to have to go to the voters. Mr. Moore said that as he understands it nothing has to go to the voters for the normal operation of the accounts, spending from the current year revenues for the purpose of the account.

Mrs. Bridle-Russell asked if all of the medical incentives are being taken from the EMS fund. Mr. Barrington said that he remembers that was discussed during the budget process last year, but he is not sure if that is being done. Mrs. Duhamel said that she did not know if that was being done and will check on that. Mr. Moore asked if the surplus can be spent on any purpose, with a Town Meeting vote. Mr. Barrington said that he understands that the purpose still has to be related to the fund.

Mr. Moore asked if a vote was to be taken to discontinue a fund, would the residual go into the general fund. Mr. Barrington said that the language that establishes the fund speaks about setting aside a percentage or amount of the revenue for a specific purpose and these accounts were set up with 100% of the revenue designated for that purpose. The funds could have been established with a percentage also designated for the general fund. Mr. Moore said that the surplus revenue generated from the EMS activities would be used to offset the tax rate if the fund was discontinued. Deputy Silver said that the original article for the fund said that the purpose was to provide, enhance or improve emergency medical services. He added that the fund has only been used for a relatively short time, and during the first few years the department has been very careful on how it was spent so that ambulances could be funded as needed.

Chief Lipe said that the ambulances are on six-year replacement cycles, and the ambulance that is due to be replaced has 110,000 miles. Fluctuating cycles for expenses and revenues in that account are due to delays in billing and insurance payments, but they balance out at the end. Deputy Silver said that they can explore broadening the use of the funds, within the scope of article. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that the Board asked if the medical incentives, such as the 1% for EMT, etc. could be taken from that account, when the default budget was being determined. Deputy Silver said that he feels there would be enough to take the medical incentives from the fund. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that the Board looked at doing that to save firefighter positions, and unfortunately it did not work out that way. Mr. Moore said that based on the six-year cycle, would there be a delivery of two ambulances in 2005. Chief Lipe said that during the budget process he was going to suggest that they get early delivery on a 2006 ambulance. Chief Lipe said that the court ruling was good news to them, alleviating the concern about whether or not EMS services could be provided if the article did not pass. The fund also provides the opportunity to replace a piece of medical equipment that may break during the year, without having to go through the normal budget process.

Mr. Moore asked if the laws can be reviewed to see if the surplus that has existed can be carved out for general purposes. Mr. Barrington said that he has been looking into that for the past year and he is hopeful that Attorney Gearreald will be able to see how it can be done. Mr. Barrington said that he would like to be able to take some of that surplus to reduce the amount being appropriated for that department or return it to offset the tax rate. Mr. Pratt said that the departments need to have some direction on how to budget.

Mrs. Bridle said that there is no way a department head can present a budget with a 0% increase and at same time return the SRF purposes to their budgets. Mr. Moore said that he has a concern with counting on a warrant article to purchase cruisers from the special detail SRF, and the article not passing. If the EMS fund were to be rescinded, all of the costs would go back into the budget; the problem would occur if the budget did not pass because a default budget would not be able to support those activities. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that the Board of Selectmen would then have to have a discussion on what could be eliminated. Mr. Moore said that the safest action is to keep the EMS fund and request spending the surplus for an ambulance. The cruisers would be a different issue because we will not be able to budget them through a default budget.

Mrs. Bridle-Russell asked what happens if a private citizen sponsors a warrant article to discontinue the SRF accounts. Mr. Barrington said that if there is no money to provide a service and the fund is dissolved, the service can not be provided. Mr. Workman said that if there is an article to dissolve the fund and there is no money budgeted to provide the service, then you would have to find the money in the budget. Mr. Barrington said that the judge's ruling did not reference the new law about not being able to spend money for a purpose that was defeated by town meeting. Mrs. Bridle confirmed that the Town Manager's direction to the department heads was to assume the SRF funds would continue.

Mr. Barrington said that we can put forward an article asking the voters if they want to dissolve the fund, but at the same time ask them to raise and appropriate the necessary funds to be added to the operating budget.

Mr. Barrington said that there has been little discussion about the revenue side of the budget. Other impacts to the budget this year will include the increase in gas prices and the proposed 22% increase in water costs from Aquarion. Mr. Barrington said that the town needs to look at ways to generate more revenue in service fees, rather than in taxes. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that she hates to see the taxpayer "nickel and dimed". Mr. Pratt asked if the Board wants to put warrant articles forward in regard to continuing the funds. Mr. Moore said that he thinks that the police detail fund should definitely be allowed to continue and an article be submitted for the surplus be used for the purchase of cruisers. Mr. Moore said that it would be taking too much of a risk to eliminate the EMS fund, but the surplus needs to be reduced and used to offset more costs in the general fund.

Mr. Moore stated that the Recreation fund is generating a surplus that has been spent on a couple of capital items, such as the bus, but something needs to be done so that account comes closer to breaking even. Mr. Moore said that as long as the revenues and expenses are in balance each year, there is not a problem, but the surplus which in the past had been used to offset the tax rate is now being buried and the taxpayers have lost some control over how it is used. Mr. Pratt concurred with Mr. Moore, and said that he does not see any other option. Mr. Workman said that the goal should be to balance the use of the funds, with articles on a periodic basis for the surplus to be spend for an associated purpose. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that the budgets will have to be watched very closely to make sure that additional amounts taken from the SRF account are shown as reductions from the general budget. Mr. Moore agreed and said that the operating budget needs to have corresponding reductions.

Mr. Moore said that it was wise for the Town Manager to ask for a 0% budget with other requests submitted separately. Mr. Barrington said that there will be a number of budget conversations along the way but this has been helpful.

Mrs. Bridle-Russell asked if there was a reason why the Island Path parking lot was not open until 1 PM on Saturday. Mrs. Martin said that due to budget concerns, she has to carefully schedule the parking lot staffing.

Mr. Workman noted that the Board of Selectmen received a report from Chief Lipe on Fire and EMS services and asked if Mr. Barrington wanted to discuss that with the Board. Mr. Barrington said that he received that report when he returned from vacation today and has not had a chance to review it. Mrs. Bridle-Russell asked that it be on the agenda for August 29th.

V. MINUTES

The minutes of August 8, 2005 were reviewed and corrected.

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the minutes of August 8, 2005 be approved as corrected.

Mr. Workman SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Seafood Festival – Sidewalk Sale Permits

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the consent agenda be approved.

Mr. Moore SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Mary-Louise Woolsey, Budget Committee Chairman, stated that the goal of the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee should be to be efficient and transparent. She stated that the Budget Committee

voted unanimously to request a definitive decision from the Board of Selectmen regarding the special revenue funds before budget reviews begin. She said that she does not think the public understood that the purpose was to create surpluses. She asked for copies of the judge's decision and any corollary decisions for the Budget Committee. Mrs. Woolsey noted that the SRF for the private details has been voted down two years in a row, and asked if the voters wishes mean anything since the new law was clear that no purpose that was voted down by the public can be funded. She asked what would happen if the public is asked to spend the surplus on an ambulance and it is voted down. Mrs. Woolsey said that functions that belong in the operating budget are being put at risk. Police cruisers should be part of the normal operating budget, with large appropriations for a special purpose should be warrant articles. The purpose of conducting this government is not to create surpluses; the public has a right to have the benefit of all the revenues that can be generated in a particular year to offset the tax rate. Mrs. Woolsey said that she does not understand the mindset of picking the items out of the budget, it makes the operating budget look lower and it is deceptive. Mrs. Woolsey stated that it behooves both the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee to work to present a reasonable budget, understanding that it is possible that some things will drop by the wayside. She guaranteed that there will be private petitioned articles to dissolve the EMS, Private Detail and Recreation special revenue funds. The public is not happy with those funds and the town is required to provide basic services.

Mr. Moore said that the problem is that no one looks at the revenues. To bring these three larger accounts into the operating budget will result in a budget increase of approximately \$500,000, which is offset by the revenue, but he does not believe that the default budget could be adjusted to include those costs and if the budget did not pass the Town could be in the worst of all worlds. Mr. Moore said that there is nothing wrong with the special revenue funds and if they can get in a better balance that would be beneficial. Mrs. Woolsey said that the public understands that they are being told that the SRF don't impact the tax rate and that is not true because the Board is holding money that could have been used to offset the tax rate; the requests for purchases from the surplus could be asked for through warrant articles. The people that contributed to the surplus are entitled to that savings now, not the residents of the future. Mrs. Woolsey said that what happened with the private detail is that the public said no because they did not want the details funded in that manner, not because they didn't want private details to be provided. Mrs. Woolsey said that the public does not want to see items purchased from the surplus that they were not aware of, such as the recreation bus. If the public chooses to vote to lapse the three funds the Board of Selectmen will be in big trouble and will have to fund the funds to provide those services. She said that would be the height of irresponsibility. Mr. Moore said that if the Board has to add \$500,000 to cover the expenses that had been in the SRF accounts, it is likely the town will end up with a default budget again. If there are petitions to dissolve those funds, he does not know what will happen. Mrs. Woolsey said that the public does look at revenues and she feels it is an insult to the public to sit on the surplus and then offer to purchase cruisers.

Mr. Michael Pierce thanked the Board for discussing this and feels everyone has learned a lot. He said that the Board needs to find out what the rules are for these special revenue funds. He said that the money that has been sitting in accounts could have been used to put more money in the billfolds of the taxpayers.

Mr. Pierce asked about the corner of Park Avenue and Winnacunnet Road and if the school is just taking away town property. He also mentioned the problem at Kings Highway and that he is concerned with that. He noted that he had a water break at his house last week and he thanked Public Works and Aquarion for their service. Mr. Pierce said that he has always thought that the funds should be dissolved and then there would be no concerns about what could or could not be done.

Chief Wrenn explained that he had spoken with Superintendent Gaylord about the intersection at Park Avenue and from a police department point of view they felt it would be unsafe to allow that spur off Park Avenue to remain with the additional entrance to the school. He does not know why the matter didn't come to the Board, but from a safety standpoint the intersection needs to be squared off.

Chief Wrenn said that as far as the SRF account, he disagrees with Mrs. Woolsey and pointed out that this type of accounts work very well in many other towns. He applauded the Boards discussion tonight and feels this is the right way to budget for this purpose. He acknowledged that details had been budgeted in the police budget every year, but it was very difficult because he did not know how many details were going to be requested, how much construction was going to take place. The account would need to be increased and while the expense was offset by revenue, he was restrained in the rest of his budget by the percentage increase. Chief Wrenn said that he does not know why the account was turned down and has received many different answers when talking with residents. He noted that when residents were concerned to see officers from other towns working details in Hampton and he explained why that was happening, they did not realize it was a result of that account being turned down. Chief Wrenn said that the surplus is a concern and if it can be put turned over to the general fund or used to offset something else from his department that would be fine, but the mechanism for funding the details should be kept in place.

Mr. Maury Friedman, said that as a resident of Hampton he was impressed to hear that the revenues need to be increased, but that should happen naturally with assessments and new construction in a town. Mr. Friedman said he has not seen meaningful discussions in this town about reducing expenses and he would like to see honest looks taken at how things are being done. Staffing levels could be reduced without jeopardizing public safety. Other towns provide equitable levels of service with fewer people. He would like to see a greater sense of cooperation between the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen. A budget should be put together that the voters will approve.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pratt MOTIONED that the meeting be adjourned. (9:36 PM)

Mr. Moore SECONDED

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Chairman